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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2010-29

Imazethapyr

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Imazethapyr

Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has re-evaluated the human health and environmental risk as well as the value of imazethapyr and is proposing continued registration of products containing imazethapyr for sale and use in Canada.

Imazethapyr is an herbicide used in Canada to control broadleaf weeds on alfalfa, chickling vetch, fenugreek, grass pea, legume vegetables, tolerant canola and tolerant corn.

The evaluation of available scientific information for imazethapyr indicated that the end-use products have merit and value in the food and crop industry and do not present unacceptable risks to human health or the environment. Details regarding the re-evaluation can be found in Proposed Re-evaluation Decision PRVD2010-02, *Imazethapyr*.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it. In the absence of a specified MRL, the 0.1 ppm general MRL applies in accordance with paragraph B.15.002 of the Food and Drug Regulations.

MRLs are currently established in Canada for imazethapyr on a number of legume vegetables, fenugreek seeds and rapeseed (canola). The re-evaluation of Canadian field trial data supporting the registration of imazethapyr indicated that the Agency has sufficient residue data on file to propose MRLs for the commodities identified in Table 1.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for imazethapyr is being conducted domestically via PRVD2010-02. Information regarding the proposed MRLs can be found in Section 8.1.1.2, and supporting field trial residue data are provided in Appendix VI, Table 1.3.2. The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for imazethapyr in accordance with the guidance found in PRVD2010-02.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs for imazethapyr in Canada in or on food, to be added to the MRLs already legally established, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Imazethapyr

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Imazethapyr	(±)-2-[4,5-dihydro-4-methyl-4-(1-methylethyl)-5-oxo-1 <i>H</i> -imidazol-2-yl]-5-ethyl-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid, expressed as ammonium salt	0.1	Dry adzuki beans, dry black beans, dry cranberry beans, dry Dutch brown beans, dry pink beans, dry red beans, dry white beans, dry yelloweyed beans
		0.05	Dry lentils, field corn

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data. Table 2 compares the proposed Canadian MRLs for imazethapyr with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs¹. American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, Codex MRLs have not been established for imazethapyr on any commodity. A listing of Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL(ppm)
Dry adzuki beans, dry black beans, dry cranberry beans, dry Dutch brown beans, dry pink beans, dry red beans, dry white beans, dry yelloweyed beans	0.1	0.1*	No MRL Established
Dry lentils	0.05	0.1*	No MRL Established
Field corn	0.05	0.1	No MRL Established

*The American tolerance is established for "Vegetable, legume, group 6".

¹ Codex Alimentarius is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.